

# The Alexandria Gazette.

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## WAR NEWS.

Great excitement prevailed at Nashville on Monday, occasioned by the report that the Confederates had occupied the town of Forrest, five miles distant, in great force. The Federal pickets stationed in the vicinity were all captured, but the army were in position to protect the city against attack.

A dispatch from Louisville, dated Monday, states that the Confederate Col. Morgan had captured several wagons of a train destined for Cumberland Gap. Another dispatch received by the way of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Maysville, Ky., reports the defeat of Col. Morgan's party near Owensville, and the recapture of the guns and horses taken at Cynthiana. The Federals, it is said, lost twenty killed and the Confederates twenty-five.

Steamboats navigating the Ohio, near Green river, are fired upon by parties concealed on the banks. A boat passing Randolph, Mo., was also fired on, but no damage is reported.

In a fight which occurred near Memphis, Mo., recently, a Confederate force was defeated leaving twenty-three dead on the field. The Federal loss was fifteen killed, and thirty wounded and missing.

We have a detailed account confirming the Confederate statement of the bombardment of the town of Hamilton, North Carolina. It appears that the affair is considered as an important Federal success, as it opens the way to Weldon, where several railways centre. The Federal loss was small, but the Confederates, it is said, left forty or fifty dead on the field.

All was quiet with the army of the Potomac. A correspondent of a Northern paper states that the only danger to which the army is exposed is that of having its supplies cut off by the blockade of James river. It is known that the Confederates are in considerable force on both sides of the river, from four to eight miles below, and are being continually reinforced, while scarcely a transport passes either way without being fired upon by their batteries.

A dispatch states that skirmishing is of daily occurrence near Boonesville, Mississippi. On Saturday last the Confederates took fifty-three Federal troops prisoners.

This newly-born infant of the Queen of Spain has received 124 names.

Johnson J. Hooper, formerly editor of the Montgomery Mail and a humorous writer of high reputation, died at Richmond on the 7th inst. He was by profession a lawyer, and at one time occupied the position of circuit judge in Alabama.

There were 137 deaths in Baltimore last week, of whom 65 were males, and 72 females.

The value of the Haytian coffee crop this year is estimated at eight millions of dollars. (?)

Mrs. Hartung's child is now with her mother, in the jail at Albany, N. Y. When Mrs. H., with Rhineman fled, after the death of her husband, they took her infant with them. To escape detection, she abandoned the child in New York, where it has been ever since, in a German family. She did not know where it was until three or four months ago, when she received a letter from this family, informing her that the child was with them, and well. Several letters passed between them since, and finally, on Wednesday morning, the man arrived with it, and placed it in the possession of the mother. The child is a bright little girl, about five years old, but cannot speak a word of English.

Information is received from several of the States showing that under the last call upwards of thirty thousand men have been enlisted. Only two or three full regiments, however, are ready, the majority being the nucleus of companies and regiments forming.

Amherst is the only college in the country where gymnastic exercises are conducted as a part of the regular college duties, and the plan, according to Dr. Hitchcock, works with complete success.

At the Boston navy yard ten new thirteen-inch mortars, weighing upward of seventeen thousand pounds each, have recently been received from Pittsburg, Pa. They are similar to those used in Commodore Porter's mortar flotilla.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 19th announces the conveyance to the Federal transports below Drury Bluff, on the James river, under a flag of truce, of between 700 and 800 Union prisoners, mostly wounded, including a number of officers and surgeons, confined since their capture in Richmond. Many of these released prisoners have already gone North.

The recent fire in the Fort Pitt Foundry did no damage whatever to the immense amount of Government property on the premises. Nor will the effects of the fire cause serious delay in its future prosecution of the Government work entrusted to it.

Rev. E. Livingston Wells, an Episcopalian of Louisville, is confined in the military prison. He will be released if in addition to taking the oath of allegiance, he will go to Connecticut, whence he came, and remain there during the continuance of the war. Otherwise he will be sent to Camp Chase.

The Philadelphia Inquirer says that upon the arrival in Washington of Gen. Halleck, "the President will at once issue an order placing him in command of the armies of the United States, with the title of General-in-chief. There will be no change whatever in the head of the War Department, Mr. Lincoln not being willing to allow Mr. Stanton to resign, even if he were so disposed. Gen. McClellan has no intention, at present, to resign the command of the army of the Potomac, and it is understood that the most confidential and friendly relations exist between the two Generals."

LOCAL.—The Mayor of Washington in a communication to the City Council of that place, on the subject of the Alexandria Railroad Company, states that the loose rails, &c., were sold at public auction by J. B. Stewart, substituted trustee under the deed of trust, from which Stewart had realized nearly \$4,000, which he (the mayor) had requested Mr. Stewart to pay over to the corporation, but as yet had received no response.—The new County Court of Fairfax held its July term in the Clerk's office, the Court House not being in a condition for that purpose; application was ordered for a new seal, the old one not being found. Job Hawkshurst was appointed deputy clerk: Wm. Terry, A. Cannoll, C. B. Johnson, John Champion, Ezra Wilbur, and James L. Smith, were appointed Overseers of Roads.—Mr. Joseph H. Hunter, of this place, was arrested in Prince George's County, Md., a few days ago, and is confined at the Old Capitol prison in Washington.

[COMMUNICATED.]

If the authorities wish to break up a number of small nests of gamblers, men and boys, they can find the aforesaid nests scattered about the suburbs, under trees, &c., almost any hour in the day. RUS.

Many of the New York journals urge a draft forthwith,—others the forming of Home Guards to meet emergencies,—others that every body should devote a portion of each day or week to personal drill, as is and has been the custom at the South for several months.

On Sunday afternoon, in a tavern at Long Old Field, Prince George's county, Md., a dispute arose between two men named—Locker and Thomas Thompson, which they went out to settle, but on reaching the road, after a few words had passed, the former drew a knife and cut the latter first across the throat and then thrust it behind the breast bone towards the heart killing him instantly. Locker was arrested. Thompson was an overseer in the neighborhood.

With the troubles between Irish and colored laborers in Cincinnati, and the apprehensions raised by the Morgan raid in Kentucky, the citizens of that important city have been in a very uncomfortable state of excitement during the past week. The feeling is rapidly subsiding. A military commandant has been appointed by the Secretary of War—Col. Burbank, in command at Newport barracks, having been designated for that position.

The U. S. ministers to St. Petersburg and to Rome, have both been presented at the Courts to which they have been accredited and most kindly received, with expressions of good will towards the U. S.

Mr. Charles Dickens it is said, is about to visit this country to see what he can see and give dramatic readings from his own works.—Madame Ristori, the great tragic actress, is also engaged to perform, during the fall season, in this country.